

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 01173 250753Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-01 ACDA-05 SAM-01 /071 W

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R 250620Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6510

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, IN, PK, US

SUBJECT: INDIAN REACTION TO NEW YORK TIMES STORIES ON
PAKISTAN BASE OFFER AND NEED FOR ARMS

1. ASIDE FROM P.N. HAKSAR (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF INDIAN PLANNING COMMISSION AND FORMER PRIVATE SECRETARY TO MRS. GANDHI) DENYING AS "CONCOCTIONS" AND "AN EXERCISE IN WRITING FICTION" THE REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM BY BHUTTO IN THE NEW YORK TIMES STORY EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE GOI HAS REMAINED OFFICIALLY SILENT ON BOTH BHUTTO'S TRIP AND THE QUESTION OF ARMS SUPPLY.

2. INDIAN EDITORIAL WRITERS JANUARY 25 STRONGLY CRITICIZED BHUTTO'S TACTICS BUT WERE RESTRAINED ON THE US. MOTHERLAND NOTES IT IS ENCOURAGED BY THE US RECOGNITION OF SOUTH ASIAN REALITIES, CITING SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS LAST WEEK TO INDIAN AMBASSADOR KAUL, BUT WARNS INDIA MUST BE WATCHFUL. NATIONAL HERALD SAYS THE US IS KEEPING ITS OPTIONS OPEN BUT THE US CONGRESS WOULD PROBABLY LOOK ON RE-
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NEWED ARMS SUPPLY WITH DISFAVOR. TIMES OF INDIA IN ITS EDIT-

ORIAL "OLD BOGEY", CALLS ON INDIA TO REASSURE BOTH IRAN AND
PAKISTAN OF INDIA'S GOOD INTENTIONS, AND CAUTIONS THE GOI
AGAINST HELPING BHUTTO BY INDULGING IN SENSELESS INNUENDOS
AGAINST THE US. HINDUSTAN TIMES ALSO DESCRIBES BHUTTO'S
INTERVIEWS AS AN ATTEMPT TO RAISE THE INDIAN "BOGEY-MAN"
AND SAYS IT WOULD BE "TRAGIC" IF THE US WERE TO ENCOURAGE
BHUTTO AND THEREBY STIMULATE A FRESH ARMS RACE AND A
RENEWAL OF CONFRONTATION IN THE AREA.
SCHNEIDER

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